



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

tured, must have cost us an average of ten or fifteen thousand dollars. Our revolutionary war required on both sides an expenditure of not less than \$1,000,000,000; the incidental losses must have been still greater; yet, if only equal, the bare interest at five per cent. on the aggregate would bring an annual income of \$50,000,000, one-half, perhaps one-third, of which would sustain all the thirty thousand missionaries necessary, according to the estimate of Gordon Hall, to evangelize the world. Our contest for independence sacrificed 300,000 lives; the wars of Napoleon, more than 5,000,000; all the wars consequent on the French Revolution not less than 9,000,000. How small a fraction of such sacrifices of life would be demanded, in the work of preaching the gospel to every creature!

Glance at the effect of this custom among ourselves on the heathen. It has filled them with prejudices well nigh invincible. They have got their views of Christianity, not from her Bible, not from her missionaries, not from any of her real votaries, but from the history of Christendom written in blood, or from fleets and armies sent under Christian banners to burn their villages, plunder their cities and ravage whole empires with fire and sword. They regard Christianity as a religion of blood, and its followers as aiming solely at conquest, plunder and power. Its pretensions of peace they spurn as base, arrant hypocrisy. Its name rings in their ear as the knell of their own ruin. They hate it, they scorn it, they dread it, they arm themselves against it; all because the wars of Christendom have belied its real character. All other causes put together, except depravity, have scarcely thrown so many obstacles in the way of evangelizing the world; and never, till this chief obstruction is removed, can you construct a great moral railway on which the car of salvation shall roll in triumph over the whole earth.

There is no end to considerations like these; but we cannot pause here to show you how far the practice of war is now crippling the moral energies of the church; — how it debases her character in the sight of man and of God; — how it hangs upon her bosom like a mammoth incubus; — how many ages it has already put back the promised day of a world's salvation: — or how impossible it will be, so long as it is tolerated among Christians, for the millennium ever to come.

Now, if there is any truth in these statements, is it not high time for the ministers of Christ to bestir themselves in earnest on this long-neglected, momentous subject? Charged with the care of souls, will they not set themselves in every possible way against such a wholesale destroyer of mankind for eternity? Sent forth on the god-like enterprise of bringing all nations back to holiness and heaven, can they overlook the claims of a cause so closely linked, so completely identified with the salvation of our world?

**DR. BOGUE'S APPEAL TO PREACHERS.**—If peace be the doctrine of the New Testament, how much is it to be lamented, that multitudes who profess to be Christians, are opposed to it both in sentiment and practice. But what is still more to be bewailed, ministers of Christ, who ought to be patterns of peace and love, have drunk into the spirit of war. They pray to God for victory over their country's enemies; they give him thanks when ten or twenty thousand of their foes are slain; and in their discourses to their flocks, they endeavor to inspirit them to battle and to bloodshed. How displeasing to God must such conduct be! How greatly is he dishonored by it!

We have reason to bless God, that the number of those Christians who perceive and feel their obligation to seek

the peace of nations, is increasing from day to day. In the first ages of the church, there were those who understood this to be the doctrine of the Gospel. But the Reformation also had its advocates. Since that time, none have been so faithful witnesses to the pacific spirit of the religion of Jesus; as the Quakers; but of late it has been embraced by considerable numbers among every sect. All the disciples of Christ should imbibe the spirit of peace; and above all should his ministers be men of peace, and advocates for the peace of the world. If we seek to inflame the malevolent passions of the soul, who shall be found to cool them? O that those who preach the gospel would lift up their voice like a trumpet, and proclaim that the religion of the New Testament is a religion of peace, and that for the blood of every man slain in war, God will demand an account from the rulers of nations.

Oh! if all the ministers of the globe would unite in this labor of love, and work of peace, what wonders might be done! What an amazing change for the better would be produced! Shall I bring arguments to convince, or motives to induce you to lift up your voice for the peace of the world? I will not. If you refuse your aid, go, strip yourselves of the robes of office, depart and officiate at the altar of some savage idol who delights in slaughter and blood. But why do I thus speak? Surely none of you, my brethren, will refuse to come forth against so mighty a foe of human happiness.

**A SWEEPING CONDEMNATION OF WAR.**—I cannot, says Chalmers, set before you a vivid picture of the miseries which war carries in its train—how it desolates every country through which it rolls, and spreads violation and alarm among its villages—how, at its approach, every home pours forth its trembling fugitives—how all the rights of property, and all the provisions of justice must give way before its devouring exactions—how, when Sabbath comes, no Sabbath charm comes along with it, and for the sound of the church bell which wont to spread its music over some fine landscape of nature, and summon rustic worshippers to the house of prayer, nothing is heard but the deathful volleys of the battle, and the maddening outcry of infuriated men—how, as the fruit of victory, an unprincipled licentiousness which no discipline can restrain, is suffered to walk at large among the people, and all that is pure, and reverend, and holy in the virtue of families, is cruelly trampled on, and held in the bitterest derision.

**ERASMUS, 1573.**—How absurd is it that they should be constantly at war with each other, who form but one family, the Church of Christ; who are members of the same body, and boast of the same head, even Jesus Christ; who have one Father in heaven, common to them all; who grow in grace by the same spirit; who are initiated in the same mysteries, redeemed by the same blood, regenerated at the same font, nourished by the same Holy Spirit, militate under the same great Captain of Salvation, eat the same bread, partake of the same cup, have one common enemy, and are all called to the same eternal inheritance.

**JEREMY BENTHAM** says, "Nothing can be worse than the general feeling on the subject of war. The church, the state, the ruling few, the subject many, all in this case seem to have combined to patronize vice and crime in their widest sphere of evil."